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A PROMISING PROSPECT.

Statistics of the foreign trade of the United States for the fiscal year ended on June 30, which have just been published, show that while the value of agricultural exports increased about \$5,500,000 as compared with the preceding year, exports of cereals, including flour, fell off \$70,400,000, of which amount \$51,400,000 consisted of wheat and \$5,000,000 of flour. In quantity we sent abroad last year 44,150,000 bushels of wheat, a significant contrast with the 154,000,000 bushels that we sold to the outside world as late as 1902.

It seems highly probable, however, that during the current fiscal year there will be a strong foreign demand for the wheat of this country. Crop reports from southeastern Europe are distinctly unfavorable. In Austria-Hungary, one of the principal wheat-growing countries of Europe, protracted drought is reported to have ruined practically one-fourth of the wheat crop while, owing to Russia's war with Japan, which has taken so many men from her farms, it is virtually certain that there will be a heavy decline in Russia's wheat crop. Reports indicate also that Argentina and Australia will have less wheat to spare for foreign consumption this year than usual. All this indicates that, while our own wheat crop will not be as great as it was last year or in 1902 and 1901—the "bumper" year—such of it as we shall ship abroad will have a materially greater value than our wheat exports had last year, if indeed it does not exceed those exports considerably in quantity.

It is altogether likely, too, that the deficiency in foreign wheat harvests will create a strong foreign demand for other foodstuffs produced in this country. This usually happens when there is a marked failure in the European wheat crop. In 1897, when there was such a crop. In 1897, whenwwoim.hold.4 off was such a failure in the European harvests, our exports of corn rose nearly 80 per cent, those of barley 175 per cent, those of rye 700 per cent and those of oats nearly 200 per cent—and this, too, although our shipments of wheat in the same period increased about 100 per cent.

Altogether, the outlook for another year of agricultural prosperity for the United States is distinctly promising.

THE RUSSO-BRITISH CRISIS.

For generations Russia's foreign policy has been founded on the principle which diplomats cover by the phrase "un fait accompli," the thing done; that is, she would do what she pleased or grab what she wanted and then clamor loudly for the preservation of the "status" or condition which she herself had just created, says the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

So dreadful has been the monster of European war, so lightly has it slumbered and so timorous have the diplomats and governments been in their steps lest they might awake the horror, that Russia's policy has more often than not been crowned with success.

When she tried it with Japan, however, she made the mistake of her career, for Japan cared nothing about the monster—being beyond the reach of his arm. But this very careless audacity of Japan caused a subtle change in every chancellery in Europe. The weakness of the most gigantic force among them all was being laid naked, the possible effect of alliances had to be considered, the chances of war had to be studied. The great conflict could no longer be regarded as an almost unthinkable calamity. It not only had to be thought of but prepared for.

At this moment of strained tension and of Russia's most perilous situation in the far east she has tried once more her old audacious game. Chafing under the imprisonment of her Black sea fleet by the closing of the Dardanelles to war vessels, she has sent through the forbidden passage vessels of her volunteer navy in the guise of merchantmen. Once through they have mounted their guns and overhauled British and German vessels, searching their cargoes and mails, and actually seized the British vessel Malacca as a prize and taking her to Suez itself.

One need not be an alarmist to appreciate the ex-

trema gravity of the situation so created or the direful possibilities that might be precipitated into realities by a rash move by any of the powers.

Great Britain is doubly aggrieved by what she deems the violation of the terms of the Berlin treaty by the sending of vessels of war through the Dardanelles and by such aggression on her merchant vessels as she has not endured for decades. Her powerful Mediterranean fleet is reported ordered to Alexandria, and unquestionably the Mediterranean outlet of the Dardanelles and the Red sea will be closely watched and patrolled.

It is quite certain that the commanders of these British vessels will view with little complaisance any Russian interference with British merchantmen, and that the overrunning of the limits of strict propriety and courtesy in making search or seizure will be apt to be promptly and effectively resented.

A hot-headed young British commander seeing a British ship under the Russian flag would be not unlikely to recapture her first and investigate afterward. Such an occurrence might have consequences so far reaching as to be beyond reasonable speculation.

What is Russia's object in risking in such a manner an explosion as she must fully realize may possibly occur? These vessels of the volunteer navy are practically worthless as fighting ships. The value of the prizes they may take is too insignificant to be seriously considered.

Is she, in desperation over her situation at Port Arthur and in Manchuria, deliberately trying to stir up a turmoil under cover of which she can plausibly retreat from a profitless and seemingly losing war? It would seem incredible; and yet why, otherwise, at this time does she seize the occasion to doubly irritate Great Britain?

Does she count on her French alliance to bring four powers into the conflict in the hope that arbitration would follow of necessity and save her from the humiliation of a surrender to the despised Japanese?

No one can tell. One can only watch the evolution of a situation undeniably fraught with that grave danger that all Europe has set itself to avert for the past quarter of a century.

Mr. Folk's history-making reforms in Missouri are having a vast influence in neighboring states, and nowhere more than in Illinois, says Collier's Weekly. Mr. Deneen, the republican candidate for governor, began his career as a good deal of a politician and party man. His development into the kind of official who serves the people only was the effect of a moral atmosphere that is spreading in the west. He is undoubtedly a better man because of the manner in which the corresponding office has been conducted across the river. He must also have been influenced by the sentiment partly reflected in the Voters' league and partly created by it. Although that league does not act as a body take part in state affairs, some of its leading spirits did much to cause the nomination of Deneen. The result was immediate. When they expected Yates or Lowden to be the nominee, the democrats had scheduled the very popular Altschuler for their nominee, because they saw a chance for victory. Immediately upon Deneen's nomination Altschuler refused to run and selected, in Springer, an unimportant friend who would not object to the minor glory of carrying the democratic standard to defeat. Many reformers lack experience and the intelligence for facts. When a practical politician like Deneen sees the advantages and the popularity of integrity in office the results are salient.

The experience of the Japanese in firing on their two torpedo boats will give the Russians hope that if they can avoid similar errors their passive policy will win in time.

General Miles is now in the position of a man who need not submit himself to the cross-examination of the temperance societies as to the ingredients of his summer beverages.

The common people of Russia refuse to develop any enthusiasm. They are convinced that there is nothing in it for them, no matter which way the battle goes.

As nothing occurred at the convention to imperil its local sources of revenue, Tammany is managing to enjoy itself in spite of certain rebuffs.

Some of the men who declared months ago that they would not be candidates were more accurate than they hoped to be.

Judge Parker agrees with President Roosevelt that an absence of enthusiastic demonstration is often a sign of strength.

All that Tammany asks is that the result at St. Louis shall not be construed as a personal victory for David B. Hill.

Kubelik, the violinist, is the father of twins. He will now divide his time between the solo and the duet.

Wisconsin's 13 electoral votes are likely to be unlucky for somebody this year.

IN THE SUMMER.

During the summer months some member of the family is sure to suffer from Cramps, Bowel Complaint or Diarrhoea. Always keep a bottle of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters in the house for such cases. A dose at the first symptom will afford prompt relief. Then it also cures Headache, Belching, Poor Appetite, Nausea, Indigestion, Dyspepsia and Malaria. Try one bottle. The genuine has our Private Stamp over the neck.

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS

WORLD'S FAIR FACTS.

Wisconsin exhibits a life-sized statue in butter of a milk cow and a milk maid in the Palace of Agriculture at the World's Fair.

A big octuple printing press is in operation in the Palace of Liberal Arts at the World's Fair. When running at top speed it turns out 96,000 eight-page newspapers per hour.

A reproduction, modeled in butter, of the first creamery erected in the west, which was built by John Stewart in 1872, near Manchester, Delaware county, Iowa, is exhibited by Iowa in the Palace of Agriculture at the World's Fair. A bust of John Stewart is also shown.

One of the interesting sights of the Philippine reservation at the World's Fair is the demonstration of wood-carving by the natives in the Visayan village. From a large block of wood, a native is carving a bust of Rizal, the Philippine patriot. The bust is being carved from a photograph and the tools used are a mallet, chisel and knife.

Seventy-five electric coin-control turnstiles have been installed at the entrances to the World's Fair. A 50-cent piece is necessary to operate the machines. Money changers are provided for the accommodation of persons who haven't the correct coins. This new method saves much expense in the printing of tickets and forms.

The method employed by the Japanese in the identification of criminals by the shape of the ear is fully set forth in the police exhibit in the Palace of Education at the World's Fair. Although the Bertillon and "finger print" systems are also employed by the Japanese, identification by the ear is considered by them to be infallible.

A pair of scissors seven feet long is an exhibit in the Palace of Varied Industries at the World's Fair. The blades are of nicked steel and the handles are of solid gold bronze, very massive, and designed in the Gothic style. The scissors were especially made for exhibition at a cost of \$3,000.

Mr. Turner has been able, through sheer financial strength, to gain the good will of a large number of the democrats of his own state, but his dollars availed him nothing when he had to stand or fall on his real merits. For, after all, Mr. Turner has nothing but his dollars to recommend him.—Centralia News-Examiner.

THE MARKETS.

Liverpool, July 21.—September wheat, 6s 3d.
 New York, July 21.—Silver, 58 1/2c; Union Pacific, 96 7/8; preferred, 93 1/2.
 Chicago, July 21.—September wheat opened at 87 1/4c; closed, 88 3/4c; barley, 42 1/2c; flax, 11 1/2c; northwestern, 11 1/2c.
 San Francisco, July 21.—Cash wheat, 11 1/2c.
 Portland, July 21.—Wheat: Walla Walla, 66 1/2c; bluestem, 74 1/2c; valley, 78c.

Murphy to Coach Naval Eleven.

New York, July 21.—Dr. William H. Murphy, Yale's baseball head coach for the past two years, has accepted an offer to become baseball and football coach at the United States Naval academy for the coming year. He will report for duty September 10.

Father Kealy's Successor.

Dunkirk, N. Y., July 21.—Rev. Felix Ward has been appointed to serve out the unexpired term of the late Rev. Stephen Kealy, C. P., head of the Passionate Fathers in the United States.

The Weather.

Portland, July 21.—For Western Oregon and Western Washington: Friday, partly cloudy and cooler.

Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho: Partly cloudy, probably preceded by thunderstorms; not so warm.

Clothes For Summer Wear

Here's the new double breasted outing Varsity, one of Hart, Schaffner & Marx latest styles. It will be popular for men at summer resorts, which is one of the reasons why it will be popular for wearing at home.

We'd like to see you in one of these suits, just to see how Hart, Schaffner & Marx clothes look on a good looking man.

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